## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION

APPLICANT:

Kuniaki Kurihara

ATTY. DOCKET NO. 09792909-5351

(Reg. No. 32,919)

SERIAL NO.

DATE FILED:

INVENTION:

"INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD,

RECORDING MEDIUM, AND PROGRAM"

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Between the title and the heading "Background of the Invention" on page 1, insert the following:

## -- RELATED APPLICATION DATA

The present application claims priority to Japanese Application(s) No(s). P2001-045250 filed February 21, 2001, which application(s) is/are incorporated herein by reference to the extent permitted by law.--

Respectfully submitted.

David R. Metzger

SONNENSCHEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL

P.O. Box #061080

Wacker Drive Station

Sears Tower

Chicago, IL 60606-1080

Customer #26263

Attorneys for Applicant(s)